

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08836 102048Z

13

ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06

FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 DODE-00 OIC-02 /107 W

----- 063784

R 101525Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7913

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 08836

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH

SUBJECT: IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE: BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS

REF: STATE 218344

1. JEAN VANDEN BOSCH, BELGIAN DIRECTOR OF NUCLEAR SECURITY, INFORMS US THAT HE WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE RIO CONFERENCE. HE SUGGESTS THAT SIMONE HERPELS OF THE BELGIAN DELEGATION TO THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE THE APPROPRIATE PERSON TO MEET WITH MR. GILLER AND THAT SHE WILL BE AVAILABLE. MISS HERPELS IS DIRECTOR OF THE SCIENCE OFFICE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. SHE CHAIRED THE MEETING OF THE ERDA PHYSICAL SECURITY EXPERTS WITH BELGIAN GOVERNMENT EXPERTS LAST APRIL, AND IS PERFECTLY FAMILIAR WITH BELGIAN POLICY RELATING TO PHYSICAL SECURITY OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND FACILITIES.

2. WE ARE SUGGESTING TO MISS HERPELS, WHO IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY, THAT SHE CONTACT MR. GILLER FOR INFORMAL BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS DURING THE PERIOD SUGGESTED BY REFTEL.

3. THE EMBASSY WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED TO LEARN IN REFTEL

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 08836 102048Z

THAT PHYSICAL SECURITY IN BELGIUM IS CONSIDERED TO BE

"MARGINAL". IN TALKS WITH THE ERDA TEAM THAT VISITED BELGIUM IN APRIL WE GAINED THE IMPRESSION THAT ALTHOUGH BELGIAN PROTECTION PROCEDURES WERE NOT RIGOROUS IN COMPARISON WITH U.S. STANDARDS, THEY WERE GENERALLY APPROPRIATE FOR THE LEVEL OF THE LOCAL THREAT AND LOCAL PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITIONS. FURTHERMORE, THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF ANY PAST SECURITY FAILURES OR NEAR-FAILURES. IF ERDA INTENDS IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN RIO OR ELSEWHERE TO PRESS THE BELGIANS TO ADOPT MORE RIGOROUS GENERAL PROCEDURES, THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE MORE INFORMATION ON THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ERDA EXPERTS. PLEASE CLARIFY. FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PHYSICAL SECURITY, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BRUSSE08836
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760343-0666
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760974/aaaacil.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ERDA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 218344
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE: BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS
TAGS: TECH, BE, US, (HERPELS, SIMONE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006